

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 COLOMB 00542 270303Z

64

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-20

USIA-15 SAM-01 IO-14 AID-20 SAB-01 DRC-01 /127 W

----- 047918

R 261210Z FEB 74

FM AMEMBASSY COLOMBO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 578

INFO AMEMBASSY DACCA

AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE COLOMBO 0542

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CE

SUBJ: CEYLONese REACTION TO PAKISTAN/BANGLADESH DIPLOMATIC
RECOGNITION

1. MDFA ISSUED FOLLOWING PRESS RELEASE 25 FEB: THE GOVERNMENT OF SRI LANKA WELCOMES THE RECOGNITION OF BANGLADESH BY PAKISTAN AND EXPRESSES THE HOPE THAT THIS WOULD LEAD TO A SPEEDY NORMALIZATION OF RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES WHICH WOULD EVENTUALLY CONTRIBUTE TO PEACE AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE PEOPLES OF THE SUBCONTINENT".

2. WHILE RELEASE HAS DISTINCTLY NEUTRAL FLAVOR, EDITORIAL IN GOVERNMENT-CONTROLLED "CEYLON DAILY NEWS" OF 26 FEB IS MUCH MORE POSITIVE IN TONE, TIPPING HAT TO SHEIKH MUJIB ("FINE POLITICAL REALISM AND SINCERE DESIRE FOR RECONCILIATION") AND BHUTTO ("MR. BHUTTO CAN JUSTLY CLAIM BRILLIANT DIPLOMATIC VICTORY").

3. SAME EDITORIAL ALSO REFLECTS LINGERING GSL SUSPICION OF INTENTIONS OF THIRD PARTY INVOLVED -- INDIA. IN CONCLUDING PARAGRAPH, EDITORIAL, WHICH MUST BE TAKEN AS STATEMENT OF CURRENT
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 COLOMB 00542 270303Z

OFFICIAL CEYLONese ATTITUDE, STATES REALISTICALLY: INCREAS-

INGLY AWARE LATELY THAT ITS DOMINANT POSITION IN THE REGION,
PARTICULARLY POST-BANGLADESH, COULD AROUSE FEARS AND MISGIVINGS
AMONGST HER NEIGHBORS INDIA'S LEADERS HAVE MADE A CONSCIOUS EFFORT
RECENTLY TO MEND BROKEN FENCES AND GENERALLY STRENGTHEN INDIA'S
RELATIONS WITH COUNTRIES IN THIS AREA...WHILE WE MUST ALL
REALISTICALLY ACCEPT THE SIMPLE GEOPOLITICAL FACT OF INDIA'S
REGIONAL DOMINANCE, INDIA FOR HER PART MUCH STRIVE TO IMPRESS
HER NEIGHBORS THAT THIS FACT DOES NOT PRECLUDE INDIA'S RESPECT
FOR THE RIGHT OF OTHER, SMALLER NATIONS TO CONDUCT THEIR OWN
AFFAIRS IN THEIR OWN FASHION. THIS IS THE INDISPENSABLE FOUND-
ATION FOR THE REGIONAL STABILITY WHICH HAS NOW BEEN GREATLY
STRENGTHENED BY THE ESTABLISHMENT OF NORMAL RELATIONS BETWEEN
PAKISTAN AND BANGLADESH."

VAN HOLLEN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, RECOGNITION, FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 26 FEB 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974COLOMB00542
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: COLOMBO
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t1974029/aaaaaime.tel
Line Count: 75
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: MorefiRH
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 14 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <14-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <14-Aug-2002 by MorefiRH>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CEYLONSE REACTION TO PAKISTAN/BANGLADESH DIPLOMATIC RECOGNITION
TAGS: PFOR, CE, BG, PK
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005